

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 154**

(By Delegate Perdue and Mr. Speaker, Mr. Thompson)

Requesting that bridge number 50-17-0.05 on County Route 17 near Wayne in Wayne County, West Virginia, be named the "Staff Sergeant Sidney H. Blankenship Memorial Bridge."

WHEREAS, Sidney H. Blankenship was born on June 4, 1939, in East Lynn and passed away on December 22, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Sidney H. Blankenship enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and attained the rank of staff sergeant before receiving an honorable disability discharge; and

WHEREAS, Sidney H. Blankenship was awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, three Purple Hearts, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with one Star and the Vietnam Campaign Medal; and

WHEREAS, Sidney H. Blankenship was awarded the Silver Star for his bravery with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division on February 26, 1968, in Vietnam, where despite receiving two gunshot wounds and a hand grenade blast that wounded his hip and leg, he organized and encouraged an effective defense to a four hour attack and successfully called in a medical evacuation for himself and his wounded comrades; and

WHEREAS, Sidney H. Blankenship was a member of the VFW Post

1 1064, the American Legion Post 177 and a Life Member of the  
2 Disabled American Veterans; and

3       WHEREAS, Sidney H. Blankenship served his country and his state  
4 with outstanding honor and memorable distinction; therefore, be it  
5       *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

6       That the Division of Highways is hereby requested to name  
7 bridge number 50-17-0.05 on County Route 17 near Wayne in Wayne  
8 County, West Virginia the "Staff Sergeant Sidney H. Blankenship  
9 Memorial Bridge"; and, be it

10       *Further Resolved,* That the Commissioner of the Division of  
11 Highways is hereby requested to erect signs at both ends of the  
12 bridge containing bold and prominent letters proclaiming the bridge  
13 the "Staff Sergeant Sidney H. Blankenship Memorial Bridge"; and, be  
14 it

15       *Further Resolved,* That the Clerk of the House of Delegates  
16 forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of  
17 the Division of Highways, the Ceredo-Kenova American Legion, Post  
18 93, his loving wife of forty-nine years, Rebbie Craft Blankenship;  
19 his daughter, Marsha Ann Poff and her husband, Glen Poff; his four  
20 sisters, Lillian Lowe, Irene Artrip and her husband, Paul Artrip,  
21 Gladys Sue Dierdorff and her husband, Don Dierdorff, Sylvia Luther  
22 and her husband, Jim Luther; his three brothers, Hiram Blankenship,  
23 Jr. and his wife, Mary Blankenship, Ellis Blankenship and Willis  
24 Blankenship; a special granddaughter who was his pride and joy,  
25 Cassandra "Cassie" Poff; and a very special friend and caregiver,

1 Cindy Petticrew.